

BRITAIN AND EEC LOCKED IN CONTROVERSY

London, January 1, 1983 will mark the tenth anniversary of Britain's entry into the Common Market. Reuter stresses in this respect that at least many Britons regard the EEC with suspicion and at worst, with open hostility. For millions of the British this period was marked by a steady rise in food prices, which have nearly tripled over the past decade. Such a jump is one of the more tangible results of the so-called joint EEC agricultural policy, which obviously runs counter to

the country's national interests. Small wonder that it is precisely the argument over the EEC food pricing policy and the issue of Britain's contribution to the Community budget that underlies the endless conflicts with her EEC partners.

Britain is still demanding to have her contribution cut back in exchange for concessions on the issue of prices for goods produced by EEC farmers. This is vigorously opposed by traditional agricultural producers, especially France, and the conflict is still unresolved.

ARAB TERRITORY COLONIZED

Doha, According to the Qatar news agency (QNA) a large Israeli construction firm has started work on a comprehensive construction project for the occupied lands on the West Bank of the River Jordan and the Gaza Strip. The territories are being photographed from the air for the best sites for the new settlements. In the Gaza Strip the surroundings of Khan-

Yunis have been examined and a colonization plan for the district prepared. Several settlements and military districts will be built there. The Beit-Lahm area on the West Bank will become the centre of the colony. A complex of fortified settlements will be built there with a communications system linking them to the militarized forward posts around Jerusalem.

South Africans torture political prisoners

London, South African police subjects political prisoners to severe torture and taunting, says report issued by the British Council of Churches, the International Commission of Jurists and a number of other public organizations. The document has been compiled on the basis of testimony made by former prisoners in racist jails and by relatives of

political prisoners who have died. It includes a list of sophisticated torture techniques such as beatings with rifle butts, keeping prisoners without sleep or food and giving them electric shocks. Nearly 200 thousand political prisoners are held in South African jails. Over the past few years, 60 of them died as a result of "unclarified" circumstances.



Crusaders.

Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

FACTS and EVENTS

① The International Monetary Fund has approved a 3.96 thousand million dollar loan to Mexico.

② The Argentine President Reynaldo Bignone has declared that general free elections in the country will take place in November next year.

③ British Airways is planning to close down its London to Mexico City route on January 17, 1983, because of the small number of passengers. "The Times" of London reports.

④ An underground workshop to manufacture arms has been discovered by the Indian police in the town of Bulandshahr, in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Large quantities of pistols and rifles have been seized.

⑤ Soviet sailors on the "Karol Polze" fishing trawler saved the crew of the Greek boat "Belly" which was in distress in the Bay of Biscay. Another Soviet vessel, the "Abel Nasser" diesel, also helped in the rescue operation.

⑥ A mass torch procession protesting against the war in Lebanon has taken place in Tel Aviv. The 10 thousand people and more who took part expressed their anger and indignation over the policy being pursued by Tel Aviv and demanded an immediate halt to the aggression and the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon.

⑦ Japanese car exports have been decreasing for 16 months on end. According to Kyodo Tsushin, they dropped by 17 per cent in November as compared to the same month of 1981.

CORRUPTION IN U.S. CONGRESS

Washington, Corruption is eroding the US Congress, said H. Reuss, Democratic Congressman representing the state of Wisconsin and M. Penwick, Republican Congresswoman of New Jersey.

In an interview to NBC, H. Reuss said that many legislators were begging for money from different groups of Big Business. If no severe measures are taken to stem the corruption in Congress, he said, this vice will destroy our entire nation. He sharply criticized the US Supreme Court decision not to impose restrictions on the sums which Congressional candidates could spend on their election campaigns.

On her part, M. Penwick noted that the Congressional election campaign had turned into a contest between purses which had nothing to do with politics and added that the corruption of the legislators had become unprecedented in scale.

HOW MANY AMERICAN SERVICEMEN ARE STATIONED OUTSIDE THE USA?

Washington, According to the "US News and World Report", there are 543,400 troops stationed in foreign countries. 28,850 more than at the end of the last year.

The most powerful strike forces are posted in Western Europe and the Far East. There are 355,600 American troops in Western Europe, primarily in West Germany, a 18,200 increase on last year's figure. Another 90,200 troops are billeted in Japan and South Korea, 5,700 more than last year.

THE TANAKA AFFAIR

Tokyo, The district court in Tokyo has concluded its hearing of the case of the former Prime Minister K. Tanaka who is accused of taking 500 million yen as a bribe for his "cooperation" in getting Japan to buy items manufactured by the American air giant Lockheed, in the early 1970s. Tanaka rejected the accusations. He failed, however, to refute the evidence against him. According to Japanese law, he is threatened with five years in prison and with repaying the state the sum of the bribe. The prosecutor's sentence is expected late next January.

Italy and the Vatican set up commission of enquiry

Rome, Italy and the Vatican have signed an agreement to set up a special commission of enquiry to investigate relations between the Vatican's bank, the Institute for Religious Affairs, IOR, and Italy's biggest private banking institution, the Banco Ambrosiano.

A major financial scandal was sparked off last summer when the Banco Ambrosiano was declared bankrupt, and its chairman and managing director, Roberto Calvi, was found hanged in London. Newspapers indicate that most of the Banco Ambrosiano's "fake credits" were headed over to the companies controlling the Institute. B. Andreotti, the Minister of the Treasury in the previous government, declared that the Vatican bank owed Ambrosiano more than a thousand million dollars. The Italian Treasury refused to acknowledge this debt.

FACTS and EVENTS

① More than five thousand Salvadorans have been killed or kidnapped this year by the repressive regime's secret services and by gangsters from ultra right-wing paramilitary squads. This was revealed in a report issued by the clandestine commission on human rights operating in El Salvador.

② According to a report from the council for reconstruction and development in Lebanon published by the "An-Nahar" newspaper, the Israeli aerial and artillery bombardment in West Beirut and in the mountains alone has completely destroyed or seriously damaged nearly ten thousand houses, administrative buildings, factories, banks and other offices. The damage which the invaders have inflicted on housing in Lebanon is estimated to amount to 3,500 million Lebanese pounds, an enormous sum for a small country like Lebanon. Hundreds of thousands of civilians have been left homeless, and without jobs or other means of sustenance.

③ According to the "Indian Express" newspaper, 60 military experts are due to arrive in Pakistan from Egypt. They are to start setting up secret electronic surveillance stations to ensure military operations in the Indian Ocean and to gather intelligence about the countries in South and South-West Asia.

UNPRECEDENTED ACTION

Tokyo, A resolution carried by the US Senate demanding that Japan should increase its military expenditure has been described as unprecedented in relations between two sovereign countries by the Japanese "Mainichi" newspaper.

This resolution which has been unanimously carried by the US Senate, denounces the range of Japan's "defense commitments" and its military policy.

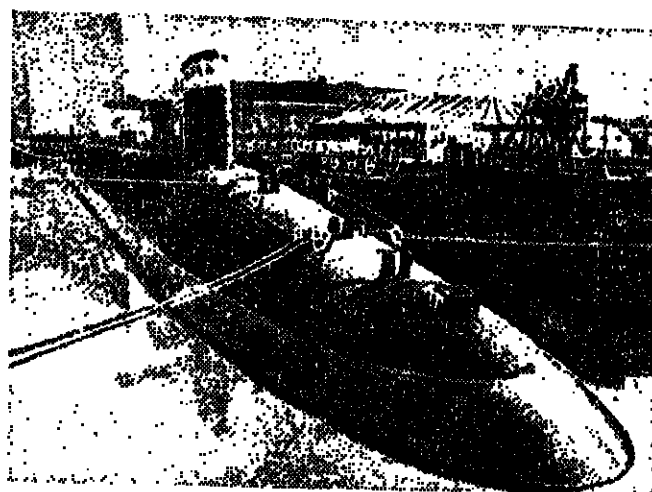
PEOPLE

Frank Labourne, from the Canadian city of Sudbury, in the province of Ontario, has been charged with one hundred and eleven crimes. Among other things, he is responsible for five thefts and 33 perjuries, while he took bribes on 22 occasions. Despite his sordid record, the court has released him on bail. There is a simple reason for their leniency — Labourne used to be sheriff in Sudbury.

Italian General gets seven years in prison

Rome, The former commander of the Italian financial guards, General Raffaele Giude, has been sentenced to seven years in prison by Turin criminal court. He was found guilty of swindling, forgery, corruption and other crimes. The general who was in command of the special corps set up to fight financial crimes got mixed up in the "oil scandal" which erupted in Italy in 1980.

Eight more men were sentenced together with Giude including old industrialists and customs officials. In 1972-1976 they organized a contraband system in the Apennines with the aim of avoiding taxes and customs duties on oil products. According to the press, in this way the Italian Treasury was deprived of the giant sum of 2,000,000 million lire.



Another Trident nuclear submarine was recently launched at Groton, Connecticut. Photo AP-TASS

LONDON'S MILITARY PLANS

London, Under the pretext of having to make good the losses suffered during the armed conflict over the Falkland Islands (Isles Malvinas), the British Secretary of State for Defence John Nott has demanded an increase in the country's defence budget above the 3 per cent hike planned earlier in accordance with the decisions of the NATO Council. An extra 1,600 million pounds sterling is requested for new types of weapons in the Ministry of Defence White Paper, "The Lessons of the Falkland Islands Campaign". The

money will go on building new battleships, and on buying planes, helicopters and other military equipment. This is more than a case of compensation for the 5 ships and 34 aircraft lost in the South Atlantic, which are to be replaced by more up-to-date and better equipped pieces of military hardware. The Ministry of Defence, however, also wants to buy an extra 10 sophisticated Harrier vertical-lift fighter-bombers, as well as 5 Chinook helicopters. Six Tri-Star passenger planes will be converted into long-distance flying tankers. At the same time, work is in progress on creating new types of rocket weaponry, including British Cruise missiles to carry nuclear as well as conventional warheads. According to "The Daily Mail", the missiles are an improvement on the Sea Eagle type utilized in the British-Argentine conflict. They will be used above all to equip the Harrier planes.

Science and technology

BULLFROGS, NOT BULLS

Frogs are very useful animals, as has been proved one more time by the research centre at the University of Hiroshima, Japan. The researchers, experimenting in livestock selection used frogs for their tests to save money and time.

JAPAN'S OLDEST

BUDDHIST TEMPLE FOUND

The Japanese archaeologists digging near the town of Sakurai in the Nara Province were unusually lucky to find at a comparatively small depth the remains of a wooden structure which is considered to be the oldest part of the most ancient Buddhist temple of Yamadadera.

SHIP HEARING VOICES

The 20,000-tonne Japanese ore-carrier "Kinkawa Maru" is the only one in the world controlled by voice. The captain's command comes to an electronic device through a microphone. There it is decoded and passed over to the engine room. The ore-carrier's crew is 11 men only.

OF INTEREST

Computer sends centenarian to school

A computerized census has been regularly held in a small town in Finland, with the computers not only registering the population, but also producing various recommendations. One of the local residents, who a short while ago celebrated his 107th anniversary, was stunned when the computer, which was fed information about him, began to flash the pilot lamp on his panels, and the soft humming noise turned into ear-splitting and grating. After all, this noise signified, the computer recommended that the respectable older should immediately go to school. Most people's age is expressed in two-digit figures. That is why the computer, after considering only the last two figures in the old man's age, vacillated and then told "the toughest youngster" where he belonged.

A snake-pilot

One can imagine the amazement of the pilot of a small Swedish plane when the engine started to independently change course in mid-air. It is true, the pilot, on a routine flight, began to flash the pilot lamp on his panels, and the soft humming noise turned into ear-splitting and grating. After all, this noise signified, the computer recommended that the respectable older should immediately go to school. Most people's age is expressed in two-digit figures. That is why the computer, after considering only the last two figures in the old man's age, vacillated and then told "the toughest youngster" where he belonged.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

LOGIC PENTAGON STYLE

Commenting on US Defense Secretary Weinberger's recent testimony before the Senate foreign relations committee, in which he made quite a few allegations regarding "mercenaries", Soviet strategy doctrine, PRAVDA writes that a closer scrutiny would reveal that these allegations were needed to support the charges that the Soviet Union is planning a first nuclear strike while America is doing all in its power to hold back from such a move.

It would seem that the American defense secretary has overlooked the fact that the USSR unilaterally pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, the newspaper emphasizes. Or is it that the secretary was not informed of the pledge or of the fact that the United States is reluctant to undertake a similar commitment? This is hardly possible, the paper comments in conclusion.

LIEUT. COL. BROWN SHOWS UP THE STATE DEPARTMENT

Is the United States engaged in an undeclared war against Afghanistan? Certainly not, is the State Department's stock answer. LITERATURNAYA GAZETA has given the lie to this contention by publishing an incriminating photo which first appeared in the "Soldier of Fortune" magazine, depicting American Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Brown, flanked by Afghan counter-revolutionaries, using a machine-gun on the Afghan Kopista border outpost.

Brown is by no means a petty adventurer. He publishes the mercenary magazine "Soldier of Fortune", and is also closely linked with the CIA and Pentagon intelligence, the paper points out. At their bidding Brown is smuggling American spies into Afghanistan and has even set up a radio fund for arms and purchases for Afghan counter-revolutionaries. In addition he is now soliciting for the latest weapons of terror and sabotage—such as poison gas pistols, pistols with silencers and special needles carrying poison—in concentrated quantities for particularly important assassinations to be made available to the counter-revolutionaries. This, in fact, adds up to the use of American chemical and bacteriological weapons against the Afghans.

The State Department, however, continues to deny the hard facts.

'HARMONY' OF A DOUBTFUL SORT

Attempts by Washington to create the impression that American diplomacy has created a sort of "harmony" in relations between the United States and the ASEAN countries is exposed in SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA by Vasily Kharitov. He writes that the American policy towards ASEAN is based on principles which are far removed from equality and respect for national interests, being rather founded on the desire to subjugate such interests in American aims.

The American monopolies' prime interest in ASEAN is as a source of raw materials, as a profitable market for their manufactured items and also as a sphere for lucrative investment. The United States received more than 90 per cent of its imported rubber from this region as well as 76 per cent of its tin, considerable amounts of sugar, etc.

The American markets meanwhile are bristling practically insurmountable barriers against exports from ASEAN countries. The protectionism practiced by American monopolies leads to a substantial deterioration of the economic situation in these countries and also to a growth in the balance of payments deficit which in 1981 stood at 10.6 thousand million dollars as compared with only 3.2 thousand million in 1980.

These are only a few of the facts indicating the real nature of the "harmony" in relations between the United States and ASEAN countries.

PEOPLE NEED PEACE

In an article published by the NEW TIMES weekly, Metropolitan Filaret of Minak and Byelorussia writes, among other things, about the Lebanese tragedy and about those who are responsible for it. This crime, he says, became possible, because of the violation of international laws and because it is in the face of the wishes of the whole world community. The crime was also committed because those responsible trampled underfoot the basic principles of common human morality, even though they make a point of declaring their religious belief on all and every occasion. It is clear to all politically sober-thinking people that the road to peace in the Middle East lies through a joint effort by all interested parties including the Palestine Liberation Organization. We support the proposal put forward by Andrei Gromyko at the 38th session of the UN General Assembly about the convocation of a special international conference. It is natural that any international conference leads to positive results only if it is held in an atmosphere of trust. The creation of trust is an area which is close to us, religious people, we are ready, therefore, to work hard in that area, sparing no effort.

VIEWPOINT

Spartak BEGLOV

Nuclear disarmament: THOSE IN FAVOUR, THOSE AGAINST

The great repercussions caused the world over by the arms reduction proposals put forward by the Soviet leader Yuri Andropov are quite understandable. One cannot help giving due credit to those international observers who think that in the light of these proposals it will be still more difficult for Washington and other NATO countries to defend their unrealistic positions on arms limitation issues. Most are agreed that a downright rejection of the Soviet initiatives would be the greatest and most tragic mistake the NATO diplomats could make. There is no other more graphic way of showing that the United States and its partners are not interested in disarmament.

Let us take the European situation as an illustration. What suggestions does the Soviet Union have? First, a triple reduction of medium-range nuclear weapons on either side, at present visualized in terms of about one thousand carriers each. Secondly, the two sides should undertake not to be the

first to resort to the use not only of nuclear, but also of conventional weapons.

The USSR also reaffirms its belief that Europe should be freed of all nuclear weapons aimed at European targets from either direction. When only British and French nuclear weapons are left in Europe plus an equivalent number of Soviet weapons, accompanied by the mutual reduction of hundreds of Soviet and American forward-based weapons, the Soviet-American balance in these weapons will be nil to nil, and thus the first, genuine "zero option" will have been made possible.

Do Washington and its partners have persuasive counter-arguments when they hurry to inspire a negative reaction to these proposals? No, they play the same old card.

Firstly, it is claimed, yet once again that were nuclear weapons to be given up, Western Europe would remain defenceless in the face of USSR aggression in conventional armaments. But even if we put aside the NATO fabrication of the

real state of affairs, the Soviet proposal that the non-aggression obligation should be extended to conventional armed forces invalidates this "argument".

They also try to prove that the Soviet Union has made some unilateral breakthrough in medium-range nuclear weapons, and that the Western weapons, and American weapons in particular, cannot be included into the mutual reduction formula on an equal footing with Soviet weapons. This is a totally false representation of the picture since the USA has concentrated on the modernization of its air-based nuclear weapons, such as the B-111, B-51, B-52, etc., and has implemented this programme having over 700 nuclear carriers aimed at the Soviet Union.

Secondly, they say, in London and Paris categorically objected to their weapons being included in the SALT negotiations on the understanding that the negotiations should encompass strategic weapons only.

So how should we explain the fact that contrary to the valuable advice coming from highly experienced and influential figures in favour of taking heed of the Soviet proposals, the governments of the USA and other NATO countries have resorted to a fireworks display of discrediting "negotiations" steps in relation to Yuri Andropov suggestions, steps which often run counter to their own arguments? There is only one valid explanation to this — the mentality of the "cocked gun". In a display of false solidarity with the Washington hawks, some West European leaders have appeared to be too closely wedded to the American state of deploying 572 new Pershing-2 and Tomahawk missiles. This is why the efficacy with which these circles fiercely oppose all Soviet proposals gives rise to the worst suspicions on the part of those who are against preparations for nuclear war, and they are, therefore, fully justified in their apprehensions that Washington and NATO do not want a nuclear-free alternative for Europe. But such an alternative does exist. It is constantly demanded by the Soviet Union, who invites the West to take the point of view of mutual reduction of nuclear weapons. And this alternative is — "zero" — "zero" — "zero".



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Photo Kyodo-TASS

Round the Soviet Union

● HARSH NATURE CONDITIONS — AND COURAGEOUS PEOPLE — THIS IS THE IMAGE RENDERED BY THE EXPOSITION OF THE LAND OF TOPALARS OPENED AT THE LOCAL LORE MUSEUM IN IRKUTSK IN THE EASTERN SIBERIA. The Topalars are one of the smallest nationalities of this country. The show features works of fine art music and photography made by masters during their trips to the hunters and reindeer breeders.

● WITH THE LAUNCHING OF THE 65-THOUSAND-TONNE "GENERAL TYULENEV" THE FLEET OF ECOLOGICALLY CLEAN OIL TANKERS PRODUCED AT THE ZILV SHIPYARDS, AT KERCH (IN THE CRIMEA), HAS BEEN EXPANDED. The ship's double hull prevents oil pollution of the sea.

● A UNIQUE COLLECTION OF NATIONAL COSTUME IS ON DISPLAY AT THE PENZA LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM. THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION. The exhibition features samples of dress worn by the peoples living in the region — Russians, Moldovians, Chechens and Tatars. The clothes have been gathered together by ethnographers and historians in expeditions to remote areas. The exhibition makes it possible to trace the various stages in cultural development and to study traditional dress and how it finds reflection in present-day clothing.

● YOUNG TREES WILL BURST INTO LEAF NEXT SPRING AT THE FOOT OF THE ZERAYSHAN MOUNTAIN RANGE IN TAJIKISTAN WHERE PLANTING HAS BEEN COMPLETED OF ALMOND AND OTHER TREES. Foresters in the republic are laying out new woods taking into account terrain and climatic conditions. Along the slopes of the Gissar Range, for instance, they have planted nut trees and pistachios, and in the valley green belts have elm and eucalyptus. The latter will protect cotton fields from drought. At present, forests occupy an area of 403 thousand hectares in Tajikistan or twice as much as twenty years ago.

OIL FROM THE SEABED



More than three decades ago, in 1949, oil started to be produced in the Soviet Union from the seabed. Nefteyuliyee Kunt (Oil Stones) is the name of this country's largest marine oil field. Today the derricks extend further and further into the sea. A number of other fields have been discovered around Nefteyuliyee Kunt. As the sea here has been found to be 100 metres deep or even deeper, it is difficult to assemble derricks on

platforms and floating drilling platforms have been introduced. Geologists say the deepwater areas promise rich oil fields. Today two-thirds of the oil produced in Azerbaijan comes from the seabed. At the present time oil and gas are produced from the seabed in the Caspian and Azov seas only, though the Sea of Okhotsk and the Sea of Japan are also promising areas for

these two commodities in the Soviet Union. In 1981, the USSR produced 800 million tonnes of oil (including gas condensate). This country not only completely satisfies its needs from its own resources, it also supplies oil to the world market. In the current five-year plan period (1981-85) production will be increased to 820-845 million tonnes.

In the photo: Nefteyuliyee Kunt.

AN IRRIGATED DESERT

The Karakum Desert occupying four-fifths of the territory of Turkmenia has increasingly fewer arid areas. The 47 km long Akau water pipeline provides water for over 50 thousand hectares of winter pasture for Karakum sheep in the Ashkhabad and Gyzur districts. The pipeline conveys water from the Karakum Canal far into the desert.

The Karakum Desert is the

gradual ground for millions of sheep and camels. Water used to be supplied from deep wells and boreholes; the water pipelines carry water to areas lacking in underground moisture. A 200 km long pipeline is being built for the pastures of Kuskaka, this country's southernmost district. Another one is being constructed on the right bank of Amudarya, while the Akau pipeline is to be extended.

Its second stage will supply water to the remote pastures in the Central Karakum and will irrigate an additional 40 thousand hectares of naturally fertile land. Almost 800 kilometres of pipelines supplying water to winter pastures are in operation in Turkmenia. The republic plans to irrigate another 8.4 million hectares of grazing ground. This will allow a twofold increase in the stock of domestic animals grazing in the desert.

Mine fans get lighter

The new units now being manufactured at the Donetsk Lenzsky Komsomol engineering plant are lighter and more powerful than their predecessors. A mine fan made for the Kirovets coal fields is 40 tonnes lighter.

This is the result of a material saving programme adopted by the plant, which is the country's largest supplier of trench excavators, fans and winding engines. It saves over two hundred tonnes of metal annually by substituting profiles for rolled steel.

Research in this direction is bringing fairly good returns, with over two thousand tonnes of metal having been saved since the beginning of the current five-year plan.

Automatic equipment guarantees purity

An important step towards a pollution-free industry has been made with the appearance of an automatic installation for the removal of organic impurities from water which has been designed by scientists at the Polytechnic in Kharkov. The first of these electromechanical complexes has been put into operation at the Serp i Molot Engine Factory in the city of Kharkov in the Ukraine.

The installation comprises a hermetically sealed column. After this is filled with lagoon water, the automatic equipment takes the rest of the job.

This is the first time that all the intermediate chemical operations are built in one machine.

Compared with the previous multistage equipment, a considerable increase has been achieved in performance, while the installation itself consumes one half or even one-third of electric power.

The new automatic complexes for closed-circuit water supply are to be installed at major Soviet engineering factories. Their cost efficiency is estimated at several million roubles a year.

Places to visit



There is nearly a person today who can be unfamiliar with the Repin's celebrated picture "The Zaporozhian Cossacks Writing a Letter to the Turkish Sultan". Only a few, however, are probably aware that the belongings in which these Ukrainian Cossacks posed for the artist — a fine Cossack sabre, flask, tobacco pouch and bandura — can be seen today, at the Repin Museum in the village of Repino. This is the only museum dedicated to the great painter's life and work.

Repin was to spend 30 years of his life (from the beginning of the 20th century) on this estate outside Leningrad. Here he lived in a small log house with balconies and verandas surrounded by a park.

The Repin Memorial Museum



The walls of the painter's study are lined with books, some of which bear dedicatory inscriptions by Chekhov, Korolenko, Leskov and Mendeleev. On a small table in the workshop there is a vase done to

Vrubel's design. It contains the painter's brushes. And below on a stool lies the hanging palette Repin worked with when his right hand became too painful to use and he had to learn to paint with his left one.

FOLK TALENTS IN THE FAR EAST

The spirit of the endless taiga and of the waves of the Amur River dominated at a folk crafts festival held in Khabarovsk in which craftsmen, singers, dancers and musicians from the ethnic villages of the Amur area took part. The festival was dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

Exhibits at an exhibition at the Far East Museum of Fine Arts testify to the strong traditions of the ancient culture of the Nivkha, Nanai, Udege and Okhotsk. On show are dressing-gowns, footwear, rugs, jewelry and souvenirs made out of wood, fur and ivory. Craftsmen demonstrate the arts of embroidery, application, wattle work and carving to visitors to the exhibition. The intricate designs are accentuated in the song-and-dance compositions of the Okhotsk ensemble and of other folk groups.

OF INTEREST

HARES HIDE AT A FACTORY

Halfway to the control post of the Sogzhi Timber and Woodworking Factory in Kurelia one is dazzled by the chirring sound of the petrol saws and the rumbling of the tip-up lorries. Undaunted by this noise, hares have found a home for themselves under a pile of logs in the timber yard.

What has made these animals trust people with their lives?

The answer probably lies in the winter taking too long to come. Although it is December now, it looks as though we were in the middle of a rainy autumn, with puddles and gray withered grass everywhere, and the forests still black. Hares could not have possibly guessed that this winter would be late in coming, and they have changed their coats from gray to white. As winter and snow are not coming yet, they have decided to hide under the factory roof so as not to fall an easy prey to wolves, foxes and hunters until the frost and snow come.

AUROCHS BY THE SLAG HEAPS

"Attention, aurochs!" such signs have been put up on the roads near the mines in the Lvov-Volynia coal field in the Ukraine. A herd of these rare animals, which have been entered into the "Red Data Book", has been brought here from Lithuania.

The forest giants are not scared by their vicinity to industrial buildings. Several years ago burning slag heaps were extinguished and powerful dust trapping installations and closed-circuit water supply systems were

installed in the mining area. Orchards were planted on the re-cultivated soils. The parks and gardens in the mining towns and settlements now have pleasant and squirrels living in them.

In the picturesque pine forests of wild animals has almost doubled. Feeling at home there are deer, elk, roe and wild boars. In cooperation with the workers from the forest farms, the miners have set up a number of preserves and hunting grounds.

Protection against mud-streams

A reinforced concrete dam in the Semirechye area of Kazakhstan will not hinder the regular irrigation of oases in case of mud-stream danger. It has been completed in the upper reaches of the Isyk River.

The dam consists of over two thousand concrete elements forming a giant sieve in the canyon. It is designed to catch boulders, tree-trunks, logs, etc., increasing the ramming force of the mud-streams. The structure provides at the same time for a free passage of water down to the irrigated fields, gardens, vineyards and orchards.

The dam is also important against mud-streams threatening Lake Issyk. The beautiful natural reservoir was destroyed by a powerful mud-stream in the summer of 1963 and work is under way now to restore it. The lake will secure permanent water supply for a group of oases at the foot of the Trans-Ili Alatau mountains.

The fields, gardens, villages and remote settlements in the Semirechye area have been securely protected over the recent years against the destructive mud-streams.

The goods produced by the Uku folk crafts factory have gained wide popularity not only in Estonia, but also far beyond its borders. Each of the articles is manufactured by hand, reflecting the creative style of the man who made it, and therefore has unique value.

Uku craftsmen aim at preserving, continuing and developing the traditions of Estonian folk art, and with every year they expand their output of unique articles executed in national style. These include woollen mittens and jumpers, as well as leather, woven and metal decorations, household items and souvenirs; all in all there are 1,000 different articles to choose from.



The colourful goods produced by Uku.

Science and technology

'ICHTIANDR'

EXPLORES

SEAS

The research vessel "Ichtiandr" which has set sail for Antarctica from the port of Sevastopol on the Black Sea coast has an unusual "passenger" — a bathyscaphe of the "Sever-2" type which is designed to explore the sea currents, the relief of the bottom and the flora and fauna in the ocean, and to perform other deep underwater research.

It is divided into three compartments — the central section with a control panel, the engine, and the laboratory. Two portholes will provide a broad field of vision, while powerful spotlights will illuminate any object in the light source, bathyscaphe and camera. The bathyscaphe also has at its disposal a mechanical "arm" which can take samples of the soil and vegetation and place them into a special external container.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

FINDS

IN THE CRIMEA

There are traces of excavations on a small plateau in a more than 100 metres from the station of Krym. A plaque on a concrete pillar says that this was the site of the town of Porphyria which was part of an ancient Greek colony. Early in the fifth century B.C. it was joined to the Kingdom of the Bosphorus together with other small towns — Myrmekion, Herakleum, Cimmerion and others. Three long streets have been excavated along with some lanes revealing remains of walls of houses. In the plan, Porphyria was an oblong square stretching from east to west. The roads were flanked by shops, and even a strip of an ancient pavement has been discovered.

The archaeologists have found and given to the museum quite a lot of earthenware pots and pans, and amphorae in which ancient Greeks carried and stored wine and olive oil, as well as terracotta figurines, copper coins and iron knives. They also discovered a few bronze decorations and even locks. These finds testify to the broad trading links between the Kingdom of the Bosphorus and many other countries and cities.

VIEWPOINT

No to new American nuclear missiles in Europe

Tatyana BOGOSLOVSKAYA

Telegrams and telephone calls from all over the nation are pouring into the Soviet Peace Committee telling of numerous mass actions by Soviet citizens emphatically protesting against the dangerous American and NATO adventurist plans leading to an escalation in the threat of nuclear war.

For over two weeks in December the Soviet Union staged Days of Action against new American nuclear missiles in Europe in response to an appeal from the World Peace Council. Soviet peace champions also condemn the American president's decision, which is being bulldozed through Congress, on the additional deployment of the latest MX strategic missiles, hypocritically dubbed peace guardians, but which are in fact a first-strike nuclear weapons.

Numerous antiwar rallies, public meetings, marches and peace vigils, collecting signatures for protest petitions sent to the NATO Brussels headquarters have been held in the vast regions of the country. Massive demonstrations were held in the towns and villages of the Ukraine, Belorussia, Georgia, Armenia, Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, Moldavia and other republics. Soviet young people were very active in the drive. As part of the "Peace March of Soviet Youth" a youth train made a one-and-a-half-month-long special trip from the town of Sochi on the way to the town of Brest, on the Soviet Union's western frontier. During its stopover in Moscow a mass meeting was held at the Patria Lumumba Peoples' Friendship University, which trains students from 106 nations. The meeting passed a resolution which read in part as follows: "We are fully opposed to the deployment of new American medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. We demand that the governments of NATO countries support the constructive Soviet initiative not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, as this answers the interests of all peoples on our planet."

The Soviet people stand firmly behind all who are determined to work against the mounting threat of nuclear disaster, who support disarmament and peace.

The Soviet people's will for peace was reflected in the numerous actions by Soviet peace advocates last May and June in connection with the Second Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament, which attracted 60,000,000 people; in the summer Peace March, held jointly with West European peace champions, which involved nearly 700,000 Soviet citizens; and also in the Week of Action for Disarmament in October when 60,000,000 Soviet people attended 60,000 meetings, rallies and demonstrations.

Millions upon millions of Soviet people are united in their demand for disarmament, detente and peace; they urge all the peoples of our planet to unite to safeguard peace and life on earth.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN KIRGHIZIA

The interaction between national and international factors in the culture of a nation is the subject of an article in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA written by the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kirghizia, Turdakan Usubaliev.

The allegations that the interaction — "Russification" is the term used by Western sociologists — of national cultures entails uniformity and a lowering of standards, killing off the national element are devoid of all truth, he writes. Our experience testifies to the contrary — such interaction helps to identify and develop the most valuable elements in the national character providing them with new life-giving juices. The richer the national culture, the greater its contribution towards the culture of humanity in general. So why deprive oneself of additional wealth, why limit the potential given by interaction? It is inevitable that any national culture which exists in isolation loses out, losing all traces of the common human culture.

Under the influence of the fraternal cultures, and of Russian culture, above all, the ancient indigenous culture of the Kirghiz people has not only advanced in Soviet times but has also been immeasurably enriched. Prior to the 1917 Revolution classical ballet was unknown in Kirghizia, now we have a national ballet company of our own which enjoys no small prestige. The first Kirghiz drama studio was directed by a Russian, Nikolai Yel'tin. Who helped to create Kirghiz school of painting? The painters Vitay Obozov and Semyon Chulkov, also Russians. It should be noted that before the Revolution Islam forbade the Kirghiz people to draw. Now we have a national school of painting headed by People's Artist of the USSR Gopal Aliev.

The cinema has become an inalienable part of the Kirghiz national culture. We owe the appearance of Kirghiz cinema to the fraternal assistance rendered from the Moscow and Leningrad studios. They have laid a

immense influence on our film industry. But nevertheless our films are impregnated with Kirghiz national features. I think that it was precisely these features which at all-Union and International film festivals won prizes and diplomas for our films, such as "The White Boat" and "The Sky of Our Childhood".

DIAL A SHIP AT SEA

Yuri Aiserov, chairman of Moravyspatnik, the Soviet organization responsible for marine communications, reports in TRUD on the completion of tests on the Soviet Union's first computerized satellite system which functions as a telephone and telegraph exchange for ships at sea.

The problem of establishing a failure-free communications link with ships at sea has been attempted more than once by many countries. Today, satellite technology has improved radio communications, increased the accuracy of locating ships and made it possible to compile real-time weather and ice maps. A system for finding ships in distress, known as SARSAF, has also been built.

At present you may use any telephone set in this country to talk to a subscriber at any point of the World Ocean. It is difficult to overestimate the significance of such system for seamen.

The Soviet geostationary "Gorizont" satellites, whose rotation rate coincides with that of the earth, function as giant radio masts some 36 thousand kilometres high. Several such satellites are enough to cover virtually the whole globe. This means in effect, that a captain needs only dial a digit code to be immediately linked, via a satellite, to any subscriber whether at sea or on land.

NORTHERN SKILLS: CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

The first group of young boys and girls has been formed to be trained as reindeer herders in Dudinka, the centre of the Tuyma, Adamovskiy Arpa, writes SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIA. Why do the con-

temporary Northerners have to be trained in a skill that used to be a way of life for their ancestors?

The reason is that since time immemorial the most important Northern skills — hunting, fishing, reindeer breeding — used to be passed down from father to son. The children used to rove the tundra together with their parents. But now they spend most of their time in boarding schools and Pioneer camps, where they are fully provided for by the state. In turn, the character of the ancient trades themselves has changed. The tundra people are now equipped with motor sledges, radio stations and portable electric generators. To use this technology properly special knowledge is needed.

THE TEACHER AS A MASTER OF COMMUNICATION

The training of teachers is the subject of an interview given to a KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA correspondent by Pyodor Morgun, first secretary of the Poltava Region Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine.

How do you visualize the modern teacher? Which qualities should teachers' training colleges instill into would-be teachers?

Teachers are givers. More than any other profession, they need to continually replenish their knowledge of science, politics, culture and humanities.

But not only should teacher have something to convey to their pupils, they also need to know how best to put it across, and not theoretically but in actual life, stresses Morgun. Can a teacher's training college help in the respect? I believe it can. But only if it concentrates on turning out not narrow-minded specialists but creative personalities with a rich stock of feelings, who are masters of communication. This is precisely the purpose of the chair of pedagogics at the Poltava teachers' training institute, where the staff are joined by actors from the local theatre and the staff are best teachers to train students in all the intricacies of the art of pedagogics in specially equipped studios, mirrored walls, electronic displays, video-recordings.



● Conductor Vladimir Fedotayev. ● Singer Yelena Obratsova and Vladimir Spivakov, art director of the Moscow Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra. ● Peter Donohoe, a winner of the 7th International Tchaikovsky Competition.

'RUSSIAN WINTER' ARTS FESTIVAL GETS UNDERWAY

On December 25, the Bolshoi Theatre launched the annual Moscow "Russian Winter" Arts Festival, with their new production, the ballet "The Golden Age" to music by Shostakovich. The festival this year will act as the final stage of the All-Union "Friendship Among Peoples" Arts Festival dedicated to the 60th anniversary since the establishment of the USSR.

The Bolshoi Theatre and the Kremlin Palace of Congresses will also be giving special performances of leading Russian operas and ballets—"The Queen of Spades" and "The Nutcracker" by Tchaikovsky, "Boris Godunov" and "Khovanshchina" by Mussorgsky and "The Tsar's Bride" by Rimsky-Korsakov. The works of Soviet composers will be represented by "War and Peace" and "Romeo and Juliet" by Prokofiev, "Spartacus" by Aram Khachaturian and the ballet "Anna Karenina" and opera "The Dead Souls" by Rodion Shchedrin. Productions of Igor Stravinsky's "Petruшка" and "The Firebird" have also been resumed.

The Grand Hall of the Conservatoire will be the venue for

recitals by Tikhon Khrennikov and Rostislav Bolko. The singer Yelena Obratsova and pianist Svyatoslav Richter will be appearing together with the Moscow Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra and the Borodin Quartet. Pianist Peter Donohoe of Britain, who won the 7th International Tchaikovsky Competition, will give a recital accompanied by the USSR Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Niyazi.

As part of the festival, a con-

cert will be given at the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall by winners of national and international contests of the past two years. The following are among the groups performing at the festival: the Moseyev Dance Ensemble, the Beriozka Choreographic Ensemble; the Pyatnitsky Russian Folk Choir and the Moscow Chamber Choir. In addition, there will also be performances by ensembles from Union's republics—the Ukrain-

ian Symphony Orchestra, the Moldavian Folk Dance Ensemble, the Lithuanian Dance and Song Ensemble from Lithuania, and other companies. Moscow's theatres have put on their leading productions for the festival.

The "Russian Winter" Arts Festival will end on January 5 with gala concert at the Kremlin Palace of Congresses. A total of 35 thousand guests from 40 countries are expected.



● The Alai pop group from Georgia play at the Olympia sports complex. ● An Italian Tarantella performed by the Moseyev Dance Ensemble.



Photos by A. Ratnikov and K. Kokoshkin

The Theatre in Rossi Street

In this country we have theatres named after well-known directors, actors and historical figures. But there is only one theatre in Leningrad—named after a choreographer.

A bronze plaque hangs between two high doors on the third floor of an imposing white-columned building in Rossi Street. It was here more than 200 years ago that the history of Russian ballet began. The plaque

reads: "The Alexander Shiryayev Studio Theatre".

Over the years several thousand graduates from the Leningrad School of Ballet have danced on the stage in this small hall, starting with the six girls and boys who were enlisted to learn "theatrical dancing" way back in 1738.

The whole of Shiryayev's life—no was dancer, teacher and

producer—was connected with ballet. A student of the famous Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov, he soon came to the fore as a character dancer especially after his success in Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker" in 1892. Having then created his own theory of character dancing, Shiryayev devoted all his efforts and inspiration to the development of the genre.

Moscow's Satire Theatre and the USSR

The art of the Moscow Satire Theatre has always been linked with the multinational theatrical art of this country. In different years, it has performed plays by Byelorussian, Moldavian, Ukrainian, and Koml playwrights as well as dramas by the other nationalities. Many of the company's well-known actors began their artistic careers at theatres in the constituent republics. It is these artistic links maintained by the theatre with drama companies and playwrights from all corners of the USSR that provide the theme for its new play, "Concert for Theatre and Orchestra", staged by Alexander Shiryayev. This is a merry lyrical production whose cast includes not only, most of the company, but also some of the stage hands.



Photos by Andriy Khaydarov

Paganini honoured

Violinists from 18 countries competed recently in a contest marking the 200th anniversary of Niccolò Paganini, the renowned violinist and composer. The contest was held at his birthplace, Genoa.

Noted Soviet violinist Vladimir Spivakov was on the jury. Last year the All-European Munich Academy presented him with the critics award for outstanding achievements in the field of musicianship.

Both of the two Soviet entrants in the Genoa contest won high awards. Maxim Fedotov, who studies under Moscow Conservatoire Prof. D. Tsyganov, won fourth prize, and Boris Garlikov won second prize. The first prize remained unawarded. B. Garlikov combined preparation for the contest with hard work as a member of the Moscow Virtuosi Orchestra led by V. Spivakov. The latter was also in charge of Garlikov's practice run-up to the contest.

Right after the competition V. Spivakov gave a recital at the renowned San Carlo Theatre in Naples. He played a programme of works by Beethoven, Mozart, Paganini and Stravinsky to a full house. Spivakov managed to bring out the unfathomable potential of each instrument and achieved an acute penetration and the finest emotions that only music can express, wrote the local "Il Mattino".

RUSSIA'S OLDEST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Invitations to take part in the jubilee concerts of the Orchestra of the D. Shostakovich Leningrad Philharmonic Society have been sent out to leading musicians in the constituent republics.

The concert cycle is being held to mark the orchestra's centenary—it is the oldest symphony orchestra in Russia and has initiated many glorious traditions in Soviet music.

The orchestra was the first to play most of the major works composed by Dmitry Shostakovich. For four decades it has been led by Yevgeny Mravinsky, its chief conductor.

BUSINESS

NOVASIDER ON THE SOVIET MARKET

Novasider representing the interests of about 30 Western firms on the Soviet market is taking part in discussions involving a number of Soviet projects our correspondent was told by the head of this Italian firm's Moscow office, Carlo Barni. We are interested in the possible participation of firms we represent in some of the projects, he said.

For example, the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machinery of the USSR and the firm of Fiat-Allis are now considering cooperating in designing a new model of the heavy T-450 bulldozer which is planned to manufacture at the Cheboksary plant of industrial tractors, as well as a new model

for the M-142 row crop tractor turned out by the Minsk tractor factory. Fiat may also participate in the designing of a new make of car for the Moscow AZLK automobile plant, as well as in supplying technology and equipment for the production of a new car model at the Volzhsky automobile plant. Carlo Barni said that in 1982 Fiat-Allis received a Soviet order for about 300 heavy bulldozers.

The Italian firm of Pirelli is studying the Soviet suggestions for building the following joint projects in the USSR: a wedge belt factory for industrial and farm machinery, as well as factories for making tennis balls and protective masks with respirators.

HASCO IN MOSCOW

We regard our first ever Moscow symposium on the manufacture of standardized elements used in making moulds and dies as an attempt to establish direct links with Soviet research organizations and enterprises, Otto Heuel, representative of Hasco, a West German company, told our correspondent. Apart from technical reports, we informed our Soviet colleagues of Hasco's production and export potential, he went on.

The company exports to practically all industrialized nations its most widely standardized elements go to manufacture parts made of non-ferrous metals and plastics.

We don't deal directly with Soviet organizations, Heuel stressed, but our products have been included in complete sets attached to metal-working machines exported by other Western companies.



"Ganga", a department store which specializes in goods from India, has become popular of late with Muscovites and visitors to Moscow. It offers nearly 500 items including original articles made of wood, metals, and jewellery of gems and ivory. In its three years "Ganga" has sold more than 40 million roubles' worth of goods from India.

Contacts and contracts

At a ceremony held recently at the Viena-do-Castelo shipyard, in Portugal, a Soviet flag was hoisted on a ship built by the yard for the Soviet Union. This is the sixth vessel of the "river-sea" type to have been built here under Soviet contracts since 1976.

In 1983 there will be a 12 per cent increase in trade between this country and Czechoslovakia as compared with this year. Mutual supplies will continue of various machines, vehicles, industrial equipment and instruments. This country will supply oil, natural gas, coal, electricity, iron ore, metals, cotton and chemicals. Czechoslovakia will provide the USSR with large-diameter pipes, products from its chemical industries, and various consumer items such as footwear, clothes, furniture, and quality leather goods.

Packaging materials from Converta

An exhibition of different kinds and types of to-vist packaging made of paper, card, aluminium foil, and other materials has been held at the Moscow office of the Finnish Soviet Trade Chamber. One of the items on display was a cardboard crate for carrying and storing grapes which had been specially designed with requests from Soviet specialists, being taken into account. The crate has already been tested in Moldova.

The exhibition was arranged by the Finnish firm of Converta which has been known in this country since 1940. The firm traditionally supplies the Soviet Union with packaging materials for different industries. In 1981, its exports of such materials to the USSR were worth nearly 198 million roubles.

Vitaly RYBCHONOK

MICROCALCULATORS FROM THE USSR

Most various Models of microcalculators are represented on ELORG's Export list. The compact and lightweight "ELEKTRONIKA 83-39" Microcalculator offers every arithmetic operation plus square rooting and percentage calculations.

Supplier: ELORG 11a Tchaikovsky Ul. 121099 Moscow, USSR Tel. 205-00-33 Telex 411104

ELORG

Conflexip holds Moscow seminar

A seminar sponsored by the French firm of Conflexip has been held at the Moscow office of the Franco-Soviet Trade Chamber. The subject of the seminar was production technology and the operational experience of pliable reinforced hoses made by the firm.

Such hoses, our correspondent was told by Conflexip's general director Jean Paul Aubert, are noted for their great mechanical strength, and physical and chemical resistance. They can be made up to several kilometres long and measure 25 to

400 millimetres in diameter. They are used at oil and gas platforms in the North and Caribbean seas. In the Bay of Guinea and the Bay of Mexico, and in the Middle and Far East.

This seminar, Jean Paul Aubert went on, is actually our first attempt at establishing business relations with Soviet organizations. Up to now we have confined our activities to participating in the exhibitions devoted to the oil and gas production industry held in the USSR.

Intourist news

PLANES OF FRIENDSHIP

Altogether 90,000 Czechoslovak citizens visited the USSR this year. Arnost Kuchta, spokesman for the Czechoslovak Cech travel bureau, told our correspondent, I believe, he continued, this impressive figure is due to two important events: the 60th anniversary of the USSR (many of my compatriots wanted to learn about the Soviet people's achievements in this jubilee year) and the 9th congress of the Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship society (over 20,000 of our tourists are society members).

Pique operates direct air services to Moscow and Leningrad, with its aircraft being known in planes of Friendship. Workers from Khodyn, steelworkers from Kostice, and cur-makers from Tatu walk the 3-day special trip for professionals to the Soviet Union. Travel on an exchange basis between citizens of the twinned towns and regions is also very popular.

We are particularly interested in the "Russian Winter" Arts Festival and its cultural programme. Kuchta added, as we parted.

MARINA AMAROVA

WHAT'S ON!

December 28-31

THEATRES

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.) 28 — Shchedrin, "Anna Karenina" (ballet). 30—Mussorgsky, "Khovanshchina" (opera). 31—Tchaikovsky, "The Nutcracker" (ballet).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.) 29 (mat) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet); 29 (eve)—Khrennikov, "A Son-in-Law Without Kith or Kin" (opera). 30 — Zhubanova, "Moscow Is Behind Us" (opera). 31 (mat)—Vainberg, "The Golden Key"; 31 (eve) — Tchaikovsky, "Iolanthe" (opera).

Opera Theatre (6 Pushkinskaya St.) 28 — Ziv, "Messieurs Artistes"; 29, 31 (mat and aft)—Gladkov, "Khottabychi"; 29 (eve)—Milyutin, "Girls in a Flurry"; 30 (mat, aft)—Casagrande, "Pinochio's Adventures"; Khrennikov, "Children From Our Backyard" (one-act ballet); 30 (eve)—Gadzhiev, "A Crossroads"; 31 (eve)—Fetisov, "An Old Comedy".

FILMS

The Donkey's Skin (Lenfilm Studios, USSR). A film on the motive of the famous fairy tale by Charles Perrault. Cinema "Leningrad" (12 Walter Ulbricht St.) Metro Sokol. For Addicts of Crossword Puzzles (Gruzeledin Studios, USSR).

A thriller, based on documentary material drawn from real cases. Cinema "Forum" (14 Sadovaya-Sukharevskaya St.) Metro Kolobznoy.

EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition Hall, USSR Academy of Arts (21 Kropotkinskaya St.) One-man show of sculpture by Oleg Komov. The emphasis is on our contemporaries though there are also many world-famous artists. Devoted to the great Russian poets—Pushkin and Lermontov and to artist Vasiliev. Komov's Pushkin statues are to be

found in the cities of Kallnin and Madrid, as well as in the villages of Boldino and Pushkin. 11y, except Monday, noon to 7 p.m. On Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Metro Kropotkinskaya.

RACING

Hippodrome (22 Begovaya St.) 29 and 31 — Racing and trotting. 6 p.m. (both days).

WEATHER

December 28-31

On New Year's eve the weather should be more seasonable for this time of year. Light frost at night, -1° to -4°C in the daytime. Occasional snow and light snowfalls, NW winds at 9-7 and occasionally at 10 metres per second.

In Australia they are having a dry and very hot summer with temperatures reaching 41° to 46°C above zero in the middle of the continent.

SPORTS

HANDBALL Central Army Club Sports Gym (39 Leningradsky Prospekt) 28 and 29 — USSR women's top-league championship. At 10 a.m., 11.30 a.m., 1 p.m., 4.30 p.m. and 5.30 p.m. (both days).

Top-class clubs are taking part in the first round of the 1982-83 USSR championship: Luch (Moscow), Zvezda (Leningrad), Avtomobilist (Kiev), Zalgiris (Kaunas), ZIL (Zaporozhye) and others.

TRANSPORT HOURS

Metro 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks. Trolleybuses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 4 kopeks. Buses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 5 kopeks. Trams 5.30 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks. Taxi 24-hour service. Twenty kopeks on the meter to begin, plus 20 kopeks per kilometre. Ordering a cab 24-hour service, Telephone 225-00-00. Communal cabs (over 40 routes in the city) 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fare 15 kopeks.

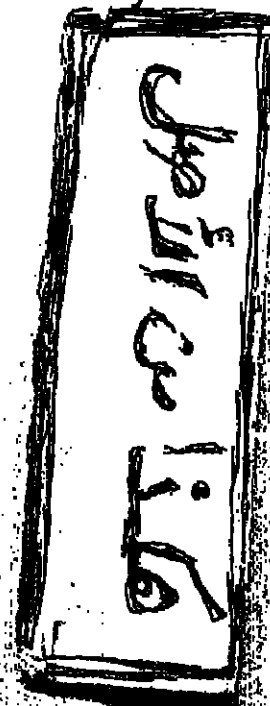
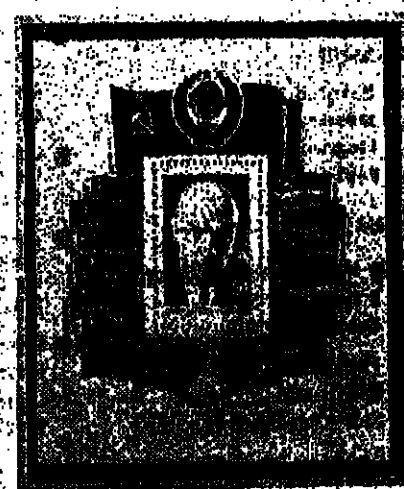
Philately

USSR

JUBILEE

COMMEMORATED

The USSR Ministry of Communications has issued a souvenir sheet marking the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Union, in the centre of the 50-kopek stamp there is a portrait of V. Lenin, surrounded by the Soviet flag, flanked by the state emblem and by the state flags of the USSR and of all the constituent republics.



SPORTS

Sports top ten of the year



Vladimir Salnikov comes out tops once again.

Triple swimming Olympic winner, world champion and record holder Vladimir Salnikov, 22, from Leningrad, has been voted Soviet sportsman of the year for the second time, with a year's interval in between the nominations. In a survey run by the nationwide federation of sports writers together with the USSR Sports Committee promotion department. At the 1982 world championships in Ecuador, Salnikov retained his 50 m and 1,500 m free style titles, an achievement that has not been matched in the history of the championships.

The other nominees are Vladimir Parfenovich (Minsk), canoeing; Anatoly Pisarenko (Kiev), weightlifting; Rinal Dusev (Moscow), football; Yuri Sedukh (Kiev), track and field; Natalya Petrusova (Moscow), speedskating; Anatoly Karpov (Moscow), chess; Sergei Kopylov (Tula), cycling; Vladimir Bulyberdin (Leningrad), alpinism; and Vyacheslav Fetisov (Moscow), ice hockey.

Many are also Olympic, world and European champions. Altogether 72 sportsmen were named in 23 different sports.

JUNIOR HOPEFULS IN ACTION

The USSR beat Norway 10-1 at the start of the world junior championship in Leningrad.

The other under-21 entrants are Canada, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Sweden, the USA, and West Germany.

It was precisely at such championships that Soviet ice players Fetisov, Kasatonov, Makarov and Krutov first came to the fore.

This is the seventh ice-hockey spectacular to have been held to date. The first one was also held in Leningrad. Last year Canada won the title, while the USSR came a poor fourth, though having previously won the title on four occasions and having once finished third.

In the other opening games, Canada outplayed West Germany, 4-0, Czechoslovakia overpowered the USA, 6-4, and Finland disposed of Sweden, 6-4.

The one-stage contest will wind up on January 4.



The USSR and Norway in action. Photo by Andrei Golovanov

SURPASSING WORLD MARK

World top spruiling all-rounder Muscovite Sergei Khlebnikov clocked 1 min 13.10 sec in the 1,000 speedskating run, shaving 0.20 sec off the former record of Canadian Gaetan Boucher. Khlebnikov coupled at the high-altitude Medeo skating rink.

Who will host world football spectacular?

FIFA will soon request the football associations of Brazil, Mexico, the USA and Canada to inform it of their readiness to host the 1986 world championship. The answers have to be forthcoming not later than January 10, 1983, the deadline for formal bidding for the world championship.

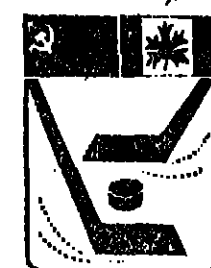
BOXING

World Cup winner Valery Abadzhyan, 24, from Voronezh, has won his first yet national open-category title, downing twice title holder Vyacheslav Yakovlev, from Leningrad. Abadzhyan was awarded a gold medal and the "Nedelya" weekly "Crystal Glove" Prize.

The two fought an expert-mental five round (two minutes each) hotly contested bout, which Abadzhyan won only due to his having been more active at the end of the closing round. He won a points decision even though at 94 kg he weighs four kilos less than his opponent.

Valery Abadzhyan was the national open-category boxing title.

Photo by Andrei Knyazev



NEW YEAR WORRIES FOR ICE-HOCKEY FANS

The match between the USSR club team and Edmonton Oilers opens December 28, the Canadian six-game tournament of Soviet players meeting NHL legends. Dates for the other matches are as follows: December 31 for the Montreal Canadiens; December 30 for Quebec Nordiques; January 2 for Calgary Flames. The Soviet team will then play two matches in the USA with Minnesota North Stars (January 4) and Philadelphia Flyers (January 6).

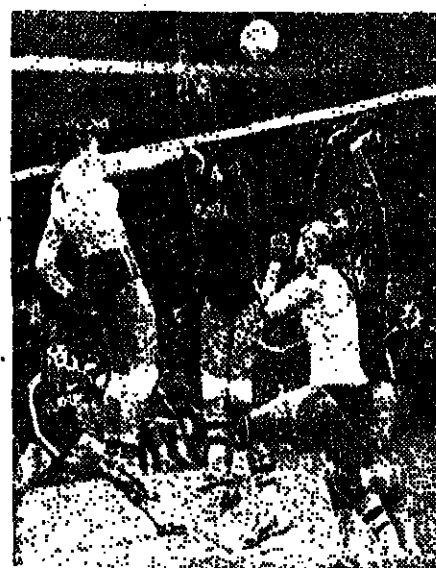
As you see, the USSR national who are world champions have a difficult time ahead with six matches in 10 days and permanent flyovers. The coaches

Viktor Tikhonov and Vladimir Yuzhinov look on the team as the final stage for checking candidates for the world championship to be held in West Germany next spring. A large group of promising players will be taking part together with the famous goalkeepers: Fetisov and Myshkin; forwards: Malisev, Krutov, Larionov, Zhuravlev, Shalimov, Shepelev and Kapustin, and the defencemen: Fetisov, Kasatonov, Bilyaletdinov, Pervukhin and Iabukov. The coaches are of the opinion that it is in playing against the NHL teams that the true skill and character of the young players is put to the test.

VOLEYBALL

Moscow Dynamo beat Sverdlovsk Uralochka (photo), 3-0, as the first stage of the national women's volleyball championship rolled to a close. Dynamo won the Moscow stage, scoring five points. The Medical Institute team from Odessa, the Central Army Club and Leningrad ITU led the Severodonetsk stage standings level of four points each. The second stage will get under way in mid-January.

Photo by Sergei Proskov



WORLD CUP IN TIME-OUT

The World Cup in alpine skiing has taken an Xmas break to last until January 4, 1983. The men's leading trio consists of Peter Müller (Switzerland), 80 points; Primin Zurbiggen (Switzerland), 78 points; Matti Veithner (Austria), 74 points. So far the leaders do not include the "slalom king" Ingemar Stenmark, who takes sixth place with 53 points, while the holder

of the two last Crystal Globes, American Phil Mahre, is 17th with 30 points. With her 105 points the Swiss Erika Hess has a strong lead in the women's section of the Cup. She is followed by the Liechtenstein skier Hanni Wenzel with 69 points and the American Tamara McKinney with 65 points.

UEBERROTH'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Peter Ueberroth, president of the Olympics organizing committee, told a press conference in San Francisco that he had still failed to win international confidence for the Los Angeles Summer Games. He said that

the world sporting community was particularly anxious over the scale of funding the organizing committee is planning for the Games. He further noted the lack of enthusiasm among Californians for the Olympics.



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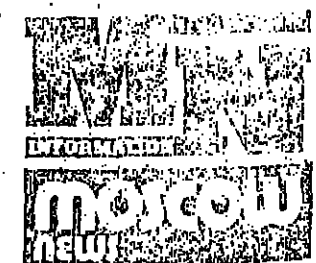
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